

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02
INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05
USIA-15 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10
/126 W

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R 171315Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO /SECSTATE WASHDC 8551
INFO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS ANKARA 6167

USEEC

USOEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, TU
SUBJ: ELECTRICITY AGREEMENT BETWEEN TURKEY AND USSR

REF: ANKARA 9708

1. TURKEY AND USSR WERE REPORTED IN TURKISH PRESS AUGUST 9
TO HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON EXCHANGE OF
ELECTRICITY AND, IF CERTAIN PROBLEMS ARE SOLVED, LINK,
WHICH IS TO BE BETWEEN HOPA AND BATUM ALONG BLACK SEA
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COAST, IS EXPECTED TO MATERIALIZE IN 1978. TURKEY WILL BE
NET IMPORTER.

2. TURKISH ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY (TEK), TURKISH MINISTRY
OF DEFENSE, AND TURKISH INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (MIT), ARE
SAID TO HAVE AGREED ON SPOT WHERE ELECTRICITY NETWORKS OF
THE TWO COUNTRIES WILL MEET. EACH COUNTRY IS TO CONSTRUCT

THAT PART OF LINK LYING WITHIN ITS TERRITORY. PORTION
BETWEEN HOPA AND FRONTIER IS SAID TO PRESENT NO SPECIAL
TECHNICAL PROBLEMS.

3. TURKEY IS EXPECTED TO BUY 1000 MILLION KWH ELECTRICITY
PER YEAR FROM USSR, EQUAL TO SUPPLY FROM 150 MW POWERPLANT.
2.18 CENTS WILL BE PAID FOR EACH KW, A PRICE CHEAPER THAN
CURRENT COST OF ELECTRICITY IN TURKEY.

4. BECASUE 220 KW TENSION SOVIET ELECTRICITY DOES NOT
SUIT TURKEY'S CONDITIONS, LARGE TRANSFORMER REPORTEDLY
WILL BE ORDERED FROM AUSTRIA. HOWEVER, ORDER IS BING
DELAYED BY TURKEY'S FOREIGN EXCHANGE SHORTAGE.

5. COMMENT. TEK OFFICIAL CONFIRMED TO EMBOFF THAT
USSR AND TURKEY HAVE IN FACT REACHED AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE.
THIS AGREEMENT WILL FORM ONE MORE AREA OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION
BETWEEN TURKEY AND SOVIET UNION. DESPITE THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF OTHER IMPORTANT PROJECTS, INCLUDING THE ISKENDERUN
STEEL MILL AND THE ALIAGA REFINERY, THE EMBASSY CONSIDERS
IT WORTH NOTING THAT SOVIET UNION'S SHARE OF TURKEY'S IMPORTS
HAS DECREASED STEADILY FROM A PEAK LEVEL OF 8 PERCENT
IN 1972 TO LESS THAN 2 PERCENT IN 1976, THE LOWEST
LEVEL SINCE THE ARLY 1960'S. ABSOLUTE VALUES AS REPORTED
IN TURKISH STATISTICS, HAVE ALSO DECLINED.

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